



**APPLICATION FOR 2008 CWI GRANT:
SEDIMENT AND NUTRIENT REDUCTION GRANT
INDIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD**

This application MUST be typed and MUST be submitted electronically to Amy Eizinger at: Aeizinger@isda.in.gov

Grantee Name	Newton County Soil & Water Conservation District
Address	213 E North St, PO Box 440
City/State/Zip	Morocco, IN 47963

Contact Name	Rose Morgan
Title	District Operations Manager
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County	Newton
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Signature Authority (District Chairman)	Gus Nyberg
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Project Title	Zone Sampling/Variable Rate Nutrient Application Incentive & Education Program
Sediment and/or Nutrient Reduction Practice	Innovative Zone Sampling/Variable Rate Nutrient Application

Describe your proposed project and how it will address sediment and nutrient management. Be sure to include key steps, benchmarks and desired outcomes. (500 words or less)

Zone sampling/variable rate application (ZS/VRT) is not widely used in our county. Any county could easily adopt this program.

Newton County's project is focused on nutrient management/reduction. Farmers will use ZS/VRT to manage their nutrient requirements and reduce excess nutrient application to crop ground.

We propose to hold a workshop in June 2008. We will advertise via the county newspaper, Purdue Extension and FSA newsletters. We will also mail out postcards from Purdue Extension announcing this workshop. The advertisements will discuss ZS/VRT, how it will benefit the farmer, and our incentive program. This program will raise public awareness of nutrient management and ZS/VRT through public outreach, incentives, and word of mouth.

Our District's Business Plan identifies impaired waters due to improper/non-existent nutrient management. Our annual plan of work identifies a plan to increase nutrient management by at least 1 farm per year. This grant will help us exceed that goal.

The June workshop will include speakers to discuss nutrient management and ZS/VRT, literature about ZS/VRT benefits, and the ZS/VRT incentive package. Interested farmers will then be asked to fill out a participation plan and application. We have 2000 acres to fund in our nutrient management incentive plan. CWI money, SWCD general funds, and Co-Alliance will reduce the farmers ZS costs from \$7.50/acre to \$0.50 per acre. Our goal is to encourage farmers to pilot and adopt this innovative practice. Participants must agree to perform the VRT applications based on the recommendations determined through zone sampling. Participants will complete a survey around August 2008 identifying the pounds per acre they applied in 2008 and their anticipated 2009 rate. Zone Sampling will be conducted after crops are harvested, approximately Oct-Nov 2008. The zone sampling will occur in 2.5 acre zones that are based on soil types using appropriate NRCS soil maps. The sampler will take 6-8 cores per zone and composite them to make 1 sample. Certified laboratory results will be provided to the farmer and Newton County SWCD. The farmer will be given a soil map, a digital record, and recommended rates (via a spread card) to provide to their fertilizer company. Nutrient application will be completed before April 1, 2009 according to the ZS/VRT recommendations. Participants will complete a report stating how many pounds per acre were applied to acres enrolled in the program. A final report will be submitted to ISDA by April 30, 2009.

CWI funds will solely be used to fund the zone sampling cost to the farmer in order to maximize the number of acres enrolled.

Newton County SWCD will provide \$3,440 in-kind towards this program.

At the end of the program, a comparison report for all 2000 acres will identify the number of participants, the number of acres enrolled, the rates applied on each acre in 2008, the anticipated (pre-sampling) 2009 rates, and the actual 2009 rates. Participants and constituents will gain an awareness of ZS/VRT and the benefits to the farmer, the community, and water quality.

Our project will be completed in 1 year.

During this project, Purdue Extension, our participating farmers, Co-Alliance and Newton County SWCD will all provide in-kind matches as non-traditional partners.

List specific partners who will assist with this project, as well as the amount of their contribution.			
	Amount	Partner	Amount
Purdue Extension Postage & Mailing	\$170.00	Co-Alliance Price Break \$0.83/a	\$1,660.00
Postage Extension Speakers fees \$175 ea	\$525.00	Farmers final cost @ \$0.50/a	\$1,000.00
Purdue Ext speakers travel	\$180.00	Co-Alliance speaker	\$150.00
Purdue Extension Lunch 30 people	\$295.00		
Purdue Ext personnel labor	\$50.00		
			Total \$4,030.00

County	Newton		
CIT Region	NW		
14-digit HUC Code(s)	7120002040070		
Grant Amount Requested	\$10,000.00		
Budget			
Expense Item(s)	In-Kind Match	CWI Funds Requested	
Personnel	\$1,100.00		
Fringe Benefits			
Travel			
Equipment (Itemize Below)			
Supplies (Itemize Below)			
Other (Itemize Below)			
Zone Sampling/VRT incentive to farmer @ \$6.17/acre 2000 acres program total	\$2,340	10,000	

Total CWI Funds Requested	\$10,000.00
Total SWCD In-Kind Match	\$3,440.00
Total Partner Funds Contributed (J:65)	\$4,030.00
Total Project Cost	\$17,470.00